TIMBER TALK

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

VOLUME 34 ISSUE 11 NOV. 2008

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have completed our conversion to electronic mailing to those members who are capable of receiving the electronic version and who do not prefer to receive the hard copy mailing. We have now e-mailed both the September and October issues even though I am having trouble with my computer. We have had several people request their name be added to our distribution list. We have also had one or two members who have requested hard copy mailing. If you wish to change the way you receive your timber talk please contact me at one of the addresses shown below. In January we will implement part two of our cost savings plan and will mail any hard copies with U.S. addresses directly from the U.S. As advised in last month's president's message we are currently reviewing our method of distributing the free woods and will advise you of our progress.

Summer is almost gone and winter will be coming shortly. The weather in Calgary has again been great this fall and we did not require jackets when we went to football games in October. However, the great weather is bound to end and we will soon be shovelling snow and scraping the frost from the car window in the morning. I hope that the weather holds for the November 11th (Remembrance Day) long weekend so we can attend the Edmonton Coin Club fall show. We have just celebrated our Canadian Thanksgiving and by the time you read this it will be less than two months to Christmas. The talk of winter this morning has reminded me it is time to order our wooden Christmas cards and it is time for anyone else who wishes to issue wooden Christmas cards to contact your supplier if you have not already done so. When you issue a wooden Christmas card I request you advise your editor with details of number issued, manufacturer etc along with details of availability if you wish to make them available to other collectors. If you choose to donate a Christmas or other wood to Timber Talk I am pleased to announce that our membership has increased to the point where we now require 110 woods each month to provide everyone with a free wood.

Fall is also the time to renew your memberships in all the clubs, including CAWMC, and I encourage you to fill in the renewal forms as soon as you receive them. We hope to include renewal forms both with the hard copies and the electronic copies of Timber Talk.

In closing, I would like to remind you again that Timber Talk is the life line of our hobby and I continue to ask on behalf of our editor that you take a few minutes and write a short article for inclusion in the bulletin. The article could be on how you started collecting wood, your favourite wood, how you discovered a new wood or a request for assistance in identifying a wood in your collection.

If you have any question of me, please call me at 403-273-6133, email me at wood5cents@shaw.ca or write me at Box 2643, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 3C1.

November TT Editor's Comments

As October fades to fall and we (Canadians) reflect on Thanksgiving, I thought I should take a few lines to thank the many coin club friends who help me to enjoy and participate in the hobby. As I do not have a driver's license, my attendance at club meetings and coin shows is not as simple a task as when the Ministry of Transport allowed me more mobility.
Many friends deserve thanks for cheerfully offering me rides to shows, meetings and events. I hope that my volunteer contribution as editor helps to give back to the hobby some of the worthwhile enjoyment that many fellow collectors have given me through their generous assistance. On that note I am pleased to announce that I have ordered from Norm Belsten a Timber Talk authors wood. Instead of an SASE, any member who submits an article longer than 250 words that is selected for publication easily obtains one of these woods. Don't leave this attractive wood out of your collection. Start work on an article for our December issue today.
A biographical profile of a fellow collector is an easy story that will almost write itself once you select a subject.
Enjoy your hobby! Help Others! To our American members: Happy Thanksgiving! Eat healthy!
Tony

PAST PRESIDENTS:
Garry Braunwarth: 1975 - 1977

Victor Hall: 1977 - 1979 *

Don Robb: 1979 - 1981

Stanley Clute: 1981 - 1983

Neil Probert: 1983 – 1985

Norm Belsten: 1985 – 1991

Pat White: 1991 – 1995 *

Lou Vesh: 1995 – 2001

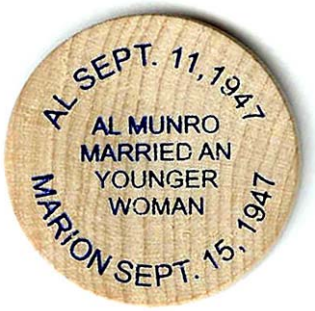
Earl Salterio: 2001 – 2003 *

Norm Belsten: 2003 - 2005

(* Deceased)

FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH

This months free wood was donated by our president and his wife Marion. The wood was issued for their sixtieth birthdays in 2007, and was hot stamped in blue on both sides. Thanks to Al and his wife for their generosity.



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CAWMC OFFICERS

President: AL MUNRO
Vice-president: ART STEPHENSON
Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chairman: AL MUNRO

Past-President and Chairman of the Board of Governors: NORM BELSTEN

Elected Members of the Board of Governors:
BOB BROWN, RUSSELL BROWN,
DAVE GILLESPIE, ED MacPHERSON,
LOU VESH, JAMES WILLISTON.

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Editor: TONY HINE
Distribution-Canada: ROSS KINGDON
Distribution-US: RICHARD BLAYLOCK
Fund Raiser: LOU VESH & DAVE GILLESPIE
Auction coordinator: AL MUNRO
DUES:
Membership dues in the Canadian Association Of Wooden Money Collectors are:
Canadian Residents: $10.00 Canadian Funds
United States Residents: $10.00 U.S. Funds
International Members Rate (outside of Canada And the U.S.): $20.00 Canadian Funds
Youth (16 years of age and under): $5.00
Dues paid to Mr. Al Munro, Box 2643 Stn. 'M' Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3C1

New Member Report:

Don Antoniak, 215 Pineland Crt., Waterloo ,Ont. N2T 2S3

Junior: James Atchinson 2 Willow Close Ballea Woods Carrigaline County Cork Ireland (Eire)

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We have lost another member

It with sadness that we announce the death of Stanley J Osovitch, Jr. of Toledo, Ohio. Stan was a member of CAWMC member #451. He was until recently a regular attendee at both the CNA and ONA conventions, Stan was a keen collector of Canadian Tire Coupons and municipal trade dollars. He will be missed at our meetings and our sympathy goes out to his family."

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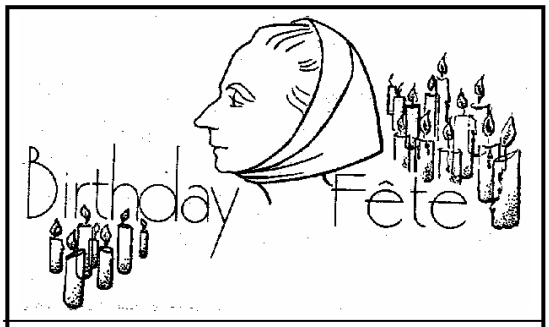
Another Member:

Terry O'Brien lost her husband Jim, who died September 25th at Stevenson Memorial Hospital in Alliston, Ontario and our sympathies go out to Terry and her family.

THE DORA DE PEDERY- HUNT 80TH BIRTHDAY WOOD

by John Regitko, CAWMC Member #265

A surprise birthday party was held on November 17, 1993, at the prestigious Toronto Lawn & Tennis Club. The 100-plus attendees represented a "who's who" of the artistic community, including the Chairman of the National Arts Council, members of various arts councils, the President of the Toronto Historical Society and other people involved with the arts that Dora was so much a part of.



The letterhead, created by her niece, used for the invitaion to Dora's 80th birthday celebration on November 17, 1993.

Politicians of all stripes and colours were also out in force, including the then Mayor of Toronto, her worship June Rowlands.

Although her actual date of birth was November 16, the birthday bash was held one day later as the club was not available on the actual day of her birthday. I was invited by her niece, who arranged the surprise gathering, to represent the hobby of numismatics.

As a birthday present, my wife, Monina, and I presented her with a quantity of a commemorative wooden token. Everyone that was present was given one and a small quantity were presented to Mrs. Hunt for her friends that were unable to join her for the occasion. I also held a small quantity back so that they could be distributed to some of my wooden nickel collector friends.

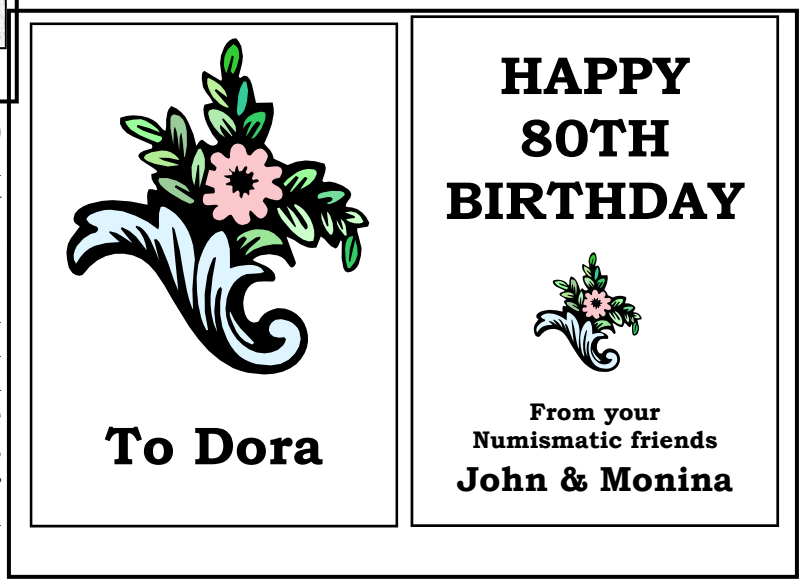
The late Jack Veffer, a friend of both Dora and me, offered to design the wood for me. He used the line-drawing showing the left side of her head wearing a scarf that she had used for her business card and a medallic self-portrait. Her niece also used the line-drawing on the invitation.

The artwork for the wood was created by the late Jack Veffer, who was a friend of both Dora and I.

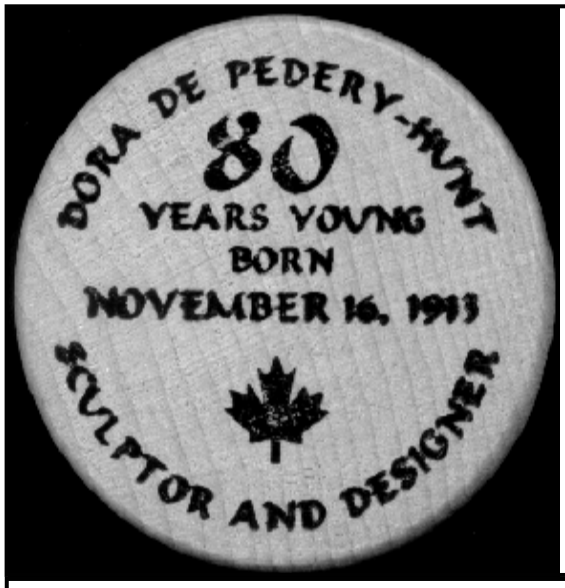
Business card showing a line-drawing of Dora.

Using Jack Veffer's artwork, a total of 250 pieces were printed with black ink on both sides on 45mm (1.5 inch) wooden blanks by Universal Signs & Graphics of Fredericton, N.B. via the silk screen method of printing.

Following the celebration, I thought I would create a pamphlet for thew ood (illustrated on the next page). I felt this was better than simply handing out a wood, because it gave me the opportunity to explain to collectors that I was responsible for its issue, under what circumstances the woods were issued and other details.



Greeting card presented to Dora at the surprise celebration.



A quantity of 250 woods were printed via the silk screen method by Universal signs of Fredericton, N.B. Two hundred of them were either distributed at the birthday celebration or given to her for passing on to her friends and relatives that were unable to attend the celebration.

WITH MY COMPLIMENTS

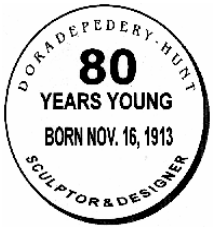
FROM

JOHN REGITKO

A SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 1993, AT THE PRESTIGIOUS TORONTO LAWN & TENNIS CLUB. THE 100-PLUS ATTENDEES REPRESENTED A "WHO'S WHO" OF THE ARTISTIC COMMUNITY, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ARTS COUNCIL, PRESIDENT OF THE TORONTO HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND OTHER PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH THE ARTS THAT DORA IS SO MUCH A PART OF. POLITICIANS OF ALL STRIPES AND COLOURS WERE ALSO OUT IN FORCE, INCLUDING THE MAYOR OF TORONTO, HER WORSHIP JUNE ROWLANDS.

ALTHOUGH HER ACTUAL DATE OF BIRTH WAS NOVEMBER 16, THE BIRTHDAY BASH WAS HELD ONE DAY LATER AS THE FACILITY WAS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE ACTUAL DATE OF HER BIRTHDAY.

I WAS INVITED TO REPRESENT THE HOBBY OF NUMISMATICS AT DORA De PEDERY-HUNT'S 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY SINCE SHE HAD BEEN SO VERY INVOLVED WITH OUR HOBBY (ONE OF HER RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS IS THE MODELLING AND SCULPTING OF THE PLASTERS FOR THE DESIGN THAT IS BEING USED FOR THE OBVERSE OF ALL CANADIAN DECIMAL COINS).



MONINA & I PRESENTED HER WITH A SPECIAL WOODEN TOKEN.

EVERYONE THAT WAS THERE ALSO RECEIVED ONE.

WE HAVE JUST A FEW LEFT OVER AND WE WANT YOU TO HAVE ONE WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS!

The special folder created by the author for distribution to wooden nickel collectors and other coin collecting friends. The front features the line drawing used by Mrs. Hunt in her business cards. The inside includes details of the wooden souvenir token. A wooden nickel was inserted in a clear plastic 2x2 and stapled to the inside of the card. Because distribution of the 250 copies was mainly at the birthday party and to her friends, the wood is somewhat scarce within the wooden money collecting community.

Our condolences are extended to the family of Dora de Pedery-Hunt, who passed away on September 29 at the age of 95. She is a recipient of the Order of Canada, and contributed in many ways both to the art community and to the hobby of numismatics.

My Wooden Nickels Worth

By Lou Vesh

The Penn-Ohio Swap Meet held in Hermitage, PA on September 20th, 2008 was not quite up to previous meets. The minimal attendance count did not detract from my maximal pleasure in attending the occasion, despite the plague of disasters that seemed to descend on the event.

Al Schubert, the main organizer of the event, experienced a heart attack which saw him eating hospital food while the event attendees dined in style. In addition Larry White and his truckload of woods, experienced a collision, which prevented him from being able to trade. Luckily there were no personal injuries, and Larry was able to join the Friday night dinner while waiting for the heavy-duty wrecker to transport the remains of his vehicle.

Finally the aftermath of Hurricane Ike brought power failures to the south of the event, which left many collectors unable to obtain gasoline for transport. Sadly, wood-burning cars disappeared a century ago! What other freakish events could rain down on our parade?

Was Loki, the wooden masked prankster at work?

Still, the camaraderie with old friends and new, made it all worthwhile. The dinner was enjoyable; the trading was exciting as always, and the prizes were plentiful. There were two framed signs (one was generously donated) by the "West Shore Wholesale Picture Framing Supplies and Services" of Westlake Ohio, for door prizes. As luck would have it I won one and Yvonne won the other. This was indeed the highlight for me, bringing home these two plaques, which now hang proudly in our den.

The wood shown at right was handed out to each attendee. It is 1-3/4" in diameter and hot-stamped in purple both sides.

Pat Whalen and Rich Boyles, who carried the load in the absence of Al Schubert, vowed to keep the club going and hope to repeat the swap meet next year.

We wish them good luck and congratulate them on all their hard work.

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The Fair In Middleton, Pennsylvania

The Middleton Area Historical Society held its annual colonial craft fair at Hoffer Park in Middleton, Pennsylvania on June 14 & 15, 2008. Illustrated below are two woods that the society issued for the event. The obverse shows in black ink the time and location of the fair. Two reverses show Grandview Elementary School and the George Mansberger Elementary School respectively. Woods are black in colour and can be ordered from the society for USD $0.50 per set plus a SASE or sufficient postage. Address orders to: Middleton Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 248, Middleton, PA.17057.

COMMON OBVERSE

Collector Profile Lou Vesh
Reprinted from another publication. Originally published in 2005

Lou Vesh was born in the Province of Quebec, but at the age of six months, his family moved to the Lakehead community of Port Arthur (now part of Thunder Bay.) Lou grew up, went to school, and worked there for twenty years. In the early 1950s Lou and a buddy who was also interested in machine shop work packed their belongings and headed to the beckoning job market in Toronto. Two small town lads arrived in Toronto, where Lou spent three cents of his forty dollar nest egg on the purchase of a Toronto Star newspaper. By the end of the day the lads had found room and board in Leaside.

Lou found a job the next day in a machine shop, and worked for the ensuing years for a number of tool and die shops.

Lou married, bought a house in Scarborough and raised two children. At Lucas-Rotax, Lou was working on parts for Orenda Engines. Toward the end of the decade, work got more specialized as the Avro Arrow program got underway.

On February 19, 1959, Prime Minister John George Diefenbaker shut down the Arrow Avro program. Lou was amongst the 36,000 employees who lost their jobs that day. A couple of years and jobs later, Lou heard about opportunities at the RCMP. With no job details, an indefinite workplace and virtually nothing else, Lou joined "I" ops

During the ensuing years Lou "grew" with the section, relocated several times, and finally moved into CSIS for his last two years. In 1986, after twenty-five years and a weakening heart, Lou decided to retire. When Lou told his cardiologist that he was retiring from his job, leaving his family, and relocating his residence, it was the doctor who nearly had a heart attack.

With fresh air, clean spring water and stress-free living, Lou's health improved and he was able to build his home by the lake in the Haliburton Highlands and continue with his hobbies. In 1990, Lou married Yvonne, who is also a native of Thunder Bay.

One of Lou's major hobbies is making and collecting wooden nickels or "woods" as they are known in the hobby. Lou's bird woods are especially prized for their artistry. Lou says he has never counted but has an estimated 20,000 woods. He says fanatical collectors boast having as many as 250,000 woods.

At the age of 60, Lou was confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church and made his first communion. He is the second oldest altar boy in Haliburton. He is also a past master of the local Masonic lodge and a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason.

In the fall of 2005, Lou required angioplasty treatment and had two stents implanted to relieve some heart problems with obvious success as he is still able to wield a chainsaw and an axe. Lou and Yvonne have made roots in the Highlands and enjoy the peaceful quietude. They do a lot of traveling, visiting relatives and chasing wooden nickels while stopping at every casino en route. They love those slots.

More on Lou and Yvonne as collectors
By Norm Belsten

I first met Lou at a Toronto International Coin Show that was held at the Lakeshore Inn in Toronto, in the late seventies. While living in Scarborough he attended many coin shows and our monthly Southern Ontario Chapter meetings, then after retiring, he moved to West Guilford near Haliburton Ontario in 1986. Since joining C.A.W.M.C. in 1980 he has served the Canadian Association Wooden Money Collectors as President, Editor, Fund Raiser, Chairman of the Board of Governors and member of the Board of Governors. In 1983 he made many of us a Christmas round as our manufacturer of the balsa flats that we usually ordered from had passed away. Lou and his wife Yvonne, a retired school teacher,

Continued on page 7

have attended many conventions both in Canada and the United States. Most of the woods he made were their personal woods, for himself, Yvonne, or both of them. He was the issuer and donator of the bird series that were issued two at a time starting at the Moncton CNA in 1993 and over several years raised thousands of dollars for our treasury. Besides the bird woods Lou has produced many different woods that required several striking or hand painting, and some with both. Lou has been awarded a certificate of appreciation, a past president s wood, and a life membership for his many contributions to C.A.W.M.C.

Some of the woods Lou made are shown below.

Lou and Yvonne's Christmas wood for 1996

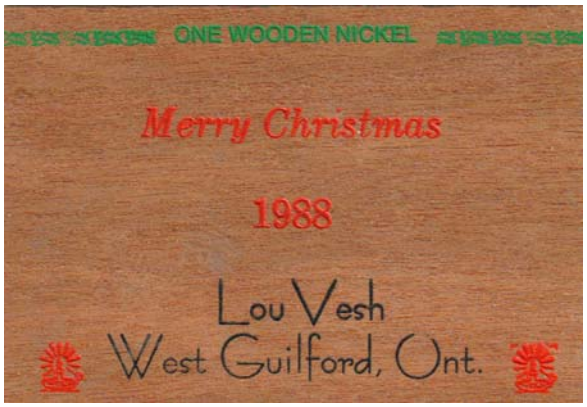
Lou's 70th birthday wood made in 2000

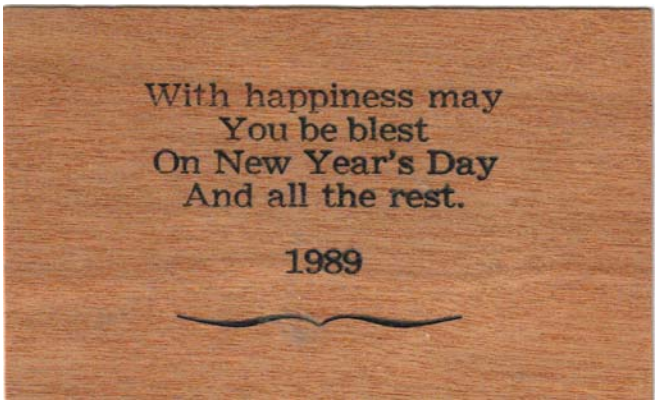
Lou produced the following wood to mark the demise of the Avro Arrow

5907-015

5944-097

One of the few flats made by Lou





5944-010

THE BIRD SERIES

This is one of the most sought after series of woods. These colourful woods were hot stamped then hand painted. Each year a set of two woods was issued from 1993 to 1999, for a total of 14 woods, all with a common reverse. 120 sets of the woods were made by Lou Vesh and sold at the Canadian Numismatic Association Conventions for that year as a fundraiser for the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors. The sale of the sets raised well over $1000.00 for C.A.W.M.C. All woods are 38mm in diameter and 3mm thick.

1993 1994 1995

1996 1997 1998

COMMON REVERSE
FOR THE BIRD SERIES

1999

Dairy Queen: An Update from Bob Brown

Recently, Rich Boyles sent me a copy of the Dairy Queen wood illustrated below.

The wood is not yet listed in my book: "A PICTURE GUIDE BOOK TO THE DAIRY QUEEN WOODEN TOKENS."

The token issued from St. Paul, Minnesota, is stamped in red ink. The reverse reads: $1 Off / Any Blizzard /Or Royal Treat / Phelan Dairy Queen / 1354 Maryland Ave. E. / St. Paul, MN 56108.

If anyone has any new Dairy Queen tokens to report please send the writer good clear copies of the token, or the token itself if you are willing to part with it, and I will see that it gets reported in this Dairy Queen Update and that you are given credit for discovering and reporting it.

I am also interested in acquiring any Dairy Queen Woods that I can use in my collection.
You can reach the writer by telephone at 717-944-9586 or by snail mail at P.O. Box 124, Highspire, PA17034, USA.
The writer thanks all previous and future contributors to the list.

I wish to **join** or **renew** my membership in the
Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors for the year 2009

Dues are: Can. Resident - $10.00 Canadian funds
U.S. Resident - $10.00 U.S. funds
International Resident (outside Can. & U.S.) - $20.00 Canadian funds
Youth (16 years of age and under) - $5.00 Canadian Funds

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

_____

Email:_____

Phone:_____

Mail this application along with
cheque or money order to:
Mr. Al Munro
Box2643 Stn. "M' Calgary
Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1

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Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors for the year 2009

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Email:_____

Phone:_____

Mail this application along with
cheque or money order to:
Mr. Al Munro
Box2643 Stn. "M' Calgary
Alberta, Canada, T2P 3C1

A note on the updated renewal or new membership forms which now include your email and phone No. This information will not be made available to the general membership only the executive members that require it for contacting members if required. New members who do not want their address's printed in Timber Talk should indicate that on the form. Use the second form to invite a friend to join and promote the HOBBY.